

Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 OMB-01 RSR-01 ACDA-19 /140 W

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R 251400Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7640

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION UN

USDOCOSOUTH

EUCOM

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1626

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PFOR CY

SUBJECT: CYPRUS GOVT ALLEGES TURK HELICOPTER FLIGHTS

REF: FBIS M241908, M241612

1. PIO ANNOUNCED JULY 24 THAT CYPRUS GOVT HAS COM-
PLAINED TO TURKEY OVER CLANDESTINE HELICOPTER FLIGHTS
SMUGGLING ARMS INTO KARPAS PENINSULA ENCLAVES. PIO SAID
FLIGHTS HAVE BEEN GOING ON FOR PAST 3 - 4 MONTHS AND STATED
UNFICYP HAS BEEN ASKED INVESTIGATE.

2. PRESS QUOTES GOVT SPOKESMAN AS SAYING NATIONAL GUARD
UNDER INSTRUCTIONS SHOOT DOWN ANY FUTURE UNIDENTIFIED HELICOPTERS.
UNFICYP AND RAF REPORTEDLY WARNED PROVIDE PRECISE FLIGHT
DATA TO AVOID ANY INCIDENTS WITH THEIR AIRCRAFT.

3. OSORIO-TAFALL AND PREM CHAND TOLD AMBASSADOR
GOC NEGLECTED TO BRING CHARGE TO UNFICYP UNTIL FOUR DAYS
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AFTER ALLEGED FLIGHTS OCCURRED. THEREFORE IMPOSSIBLE TO

VERIFY. NEITHER CAN IT BE VERIFIED THAT PROTEST HAS BEEN
LEDGED WITH GOT ALTHOUGH ASSUREDLY PREDICTABLE LATTER WILL
DENY. BOTH OSORIO AND PREM LEAVE LITTLE DOUBT THAT SOME CLANDESTINE
FLIGHTS HAVE OCCURRED. (THIS BELIEF SHARED BY UK HICOM.)
FURTHER, OSORIO EXPRESSED HIS SERIOUS CONCERN THAT NATIONAL
GUARD MIGHT IN FUTURE ATTEMPT BRING DOWN A PLANE AND THUS
PROVOKE GREEK-TURKISH CRISIS. CREDIBILITY OF HIS CONCERN
PERHAPS QUESTIONABLE BUT BELIEVE MERITS INCLUDING.

4. BOTH UNFICYP AND BRITISH HICOM OFFICERS SERIOUSLY
ANNOYED AT INSTRUCTIONS TO SHOOT AT ANY UNIDENTIFIED
HELICOPTER. THEY BELIEVE THIS MAY ENDANGER THEIR
HELICOPTERS AND WILL PROBABLY PROTEST TO GOC.
MC CLOSKEY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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